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Voluntary - Public

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Monsoon Report (6)

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

A late revival of the monsoon activity in some of the worst drought affected regions has helped to contain further yield losses in *kharif* (fall and early winter harvested) crops such as rice and improve planting prospects for *rabi* (winter) season crops (wheat, rapeseed and pulses). However, it is unclear whether these rains would encourage significant additional planting of rice in the *kharif* season as the normal window of opportunity for planting of rice is over in most sates.

General Information:

During the week ending September 9, several drought affected states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal received unusually heavy rains, alleviating the drought situation to some extent. Some parts of these states are now experiencing floods. Rainfall during the week ending September 9 was 21 percent above normal with 18 of the 36 weather subdivisions, mostly in north, central and south India, receiving above normal rainfall. During the previous week also monsoon was 4 percent above normal with several western and south east

states receiving excellent rains (Figure 1). However, area weighted cumulative rainfall from June 1 to September 9 was still 20 percent below normal, only a marginal improvement over the previous weeks. Rainfall deficiency in most north, central and eastern states continue to remain high ranging from 43 percent in West Uttar Pradesh to 21 percent in Bihar.

Official progressive planting data shows that rice planting up to September 4 was 6.4 million hectares behind the corresponding period of last year, whereas area coverage of most other crops, with the exception of peanut, millet, and sugarcane, was equal to or ahead of last year's level (http://agricoop.nic.in/ncfcweather/ncfcasSep-04-2009.pdf). Recent above normal rains in the drought affected areas should help to arrest further yield losses in crops such as rice, soybeans, pulses, peanut and sugarcane. Further more, improved soil moisture conditions should help timely planting of winter season crops such as wheat, rapeseed, and pulses.

Figure 1: Spatial and temporal distribution of 2009 monsoon rains

Weather Zones	June			July						August				September				
weather zones	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30
Andaman & Nicobar Islands																		
Arunachal Pradesh																		
Assam & Meghalaya																		
Nagaland, Manipur & Mizo																		
Sub Himalayan West Bengal																		
Gangetic West Bengal																		
Orissa																		
Jharkhand																		
Bihar																		
East Uttar Pradesh																		
Plains of W. Uttar Pradesh																		
Uttaranchal																		
Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi																		
Punjab																		
Himachal Pradesh																		
Jammu & Kashmir																		
West Rajasthan																		
East Rajasthan																		
West Madhya Pradesh																		
East MP																		
Chhattisgarh																		
Gujarat Region																		
Saurashtra & Kutch																		
Konkan & Goa																		
Madhya Maharashtra																		
Marathwada																		
Vidarbha																		
Coastal Andhra Pradesh																		

Kerala Lakshadweep									H						
Lakshadweep Percent deviation from	-35	-37	-	-8	+6	+15		-		-2	-5		+21		
Percent deviation from normal			68			_	18	64		-		44			